

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT OPERATIONS**

Art Unit: 1793
Applicants: STEPHEN M. POTTER
PEDRO GUTENBERG QUARIGUASI NETTO
Serial No: 10/789,694
Filed: February 27, 2004
Title: COMBINED PRE-TREATMENT PROCESS FOR ENABLING FEED
MATERIAL TO BE CHARGED IN DIRECT REDUCTION PROCESS
Confirmation: 9316

Charlotte, North Carolina
July 30, 2009

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action dated Feb. 2, 2009, kindly enter the following amendment to the claims.

Amendments to the Claims begin on Page 2

Remarks begin on Page 7.